



# AG UPDATE

## USDA/NASS

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## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

### JULY 2005

Red meat production in **Colorado** during July 2005 totaled 158.5 million pounds, down 11 percent from the 178.7 million pounds produced during July 2004 and 5 percent below the 166.6 million pounds produced during June of this year. Cattle kill during July was down 14 percent from the previous year to 188,700 head but the average live weight increased 16 pounds to 1,266 pounds per head. Hog slaughter, at 1,000 head, was down 100 head from July 2004 but the average live weight increased 20 pounds to 258. **Accumulated production** for the first seven months of this year now totals 1.02 billion pounds, down 12 percent from the 1.16 billion pounds produced during July of last year.

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in July, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in July 2004.

**Beef production**, at 2.08 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head, down 2 percent from July 2004. The average live weight was up 15 pounds from the previous year, at 1,254 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 12.4 million pounds, 7 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,600 head, down 15 percent from July 2004. The average live weight was 26 pounds above last year, at 350 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.51 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.66 million head, 5 percent below July 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 264 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.5 million pounds, was down 5 percent from July 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 200,800 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 6 pounds from July a year ago.

**January to July 2005 commercial red meat production** was 25.9 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 8 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

### Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area And Specie	July	June	July	January-July	
	2004	2005	2005	2004	2005
	<b>Million Pounds</b>				
<b>Colorado.....</b>	178.7	166.6	158.5	1,160.7	1,020.0
<b>United States</b>	3,708	3,963	3,616	26,011	25,865
Beef.....	2,104	2,228	2,085	14,194	14,003
Veal.....	13.3	13.2	12.4	98.8	90.4
Pork.....	1,576	1,707	1,505	11,605	11,663
Lamb & Mutton.	14.2	15.3	13.5	112.8	108.1

## CATTLE ON FEED

### August 1, 2005

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in **Colorado** feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 820,000 head as of August 1, 2005. The latest inventory was down 9 percent from a revised July 1, 2005 inventory of 900,000, and down 7 percent from the 880,000 on feed on August 1, 2004. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 200,000 head of fed cattle during July 2005. This was unchanged from July 2004 marketing, but 5 percent above the revised June 2005 marketings. An estimated 125,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during July, down 4 percent from June 2005 placements and 14 percent below a year ago. Of the number placed in July, 16 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 16 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 36 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 32 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for July, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from a year ago, but down 50 percent from last month.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.1 million head on August 1, 2005. The inventory was 2 percent above August 1, 2004 and 5 percent above August 1, 2003. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.68 million, 2 percent below 2004 and 16 percent below 2003. This is the lowest placements for the month of July since the series began

in 1996. Net placements were 1.62 million. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 400,000, 600-699 pounds were 338,000, 700-799 pounds were 465,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 475,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.92 million, slightly below 2004 and 16 percent below 2003. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of July since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during July, 3 percent above 2004 but unchanged from 2003.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots  
July 1 to August 1, 2004-2005**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<b>1,000 head</b>			
On Feed July 1	940	900	10,132	10,392
Placements During July	145	125	1,719	1,678
< 600 pounds	30	20	445	400
600 - 699 Pounds	30	20	324	338
700 - 799 Pounds	50	45	499	465
800 Plus Pounds	35	40	451	475
Marketings During July	200	200	1,925	1,918
Other Disap. During July	5	5	58	60
On Feed August 1	880	820	9,868	10,092

**CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION  
JULY 2005**

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 91 million eggs during July 2005 compared with 86 million during the previous month and 94 million in July 2004. The total number of all layers averaged 3.80 million during July this year, up nearly 1 percent from 3.77 million in June of this year but 1 percent below the 3.84 million layers for July 2004. The number of eggs per 100 layers was 2,398 in July 2005 down 2 percent from July 2004 but 5 percent above June 2005.

**U.S.** egg production totaled 7.56 billion during July 2005, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.44 billion table eggs, and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.06 billion were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2005 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,222 eggs, up 1 percent from July 2004.

All layers in the U.S. on August 1, 2005, totaled 340 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 340 million layers consisted of 282 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on August 1, 2005, averaged 71.0 eggs per 100 layers, same as a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.09 billion eggs during July 2005, unchanged from a year

ago. The average number of layers during July, at 319 million, was unchanged from a year ago.

**MUSHROOMS -- 2004-2005**

Sales of the 2004-05 U.S. mushroom crop are 853 million pounds, virtually unchanged from the 2003-04 season but 1 percent above the 2002-03 season. Value of sales for the 2004-05 U.S. mushroom crop is \$908 million, down 1 percent from the previous season but 2 percent above the 2002-03 season. The number of growers, at 275, is down 3 from last season. The average price is \$1.06 per pound, down 2 cents from 2003-04.

**Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms Combined:  
Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price Per lb. , and Value of  
Sales, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005**

Year	Growers <u>1/</u>	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price Per Pound <u>2/</u>	Value of Sales
	Number	1,000 Lbs.	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
2002-03.....	265	848,306	1.050	890,394
2003-04.....	278	854,514	1.080	918,914
2004-05.....	275	853,132	1.060	908,370

1/ Number of growers counted once if growing both Agaricus and specialty mushrooms.

2/ Average price received at the point of first sale, weighted by each method of sale.

Agaricus mushroom sales totaled 838 million pounds, virtually unchanged from both the 2003-04 and 2002-03 seasons. Pennsylvania accounted for 59 percent of the total volume of sales and second ranked California contributed 14 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$862 million, down 2 percent from the 2003-04 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 101 million pounds, up 4 percent from last season but 9 percent below the 2002-03 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 12 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold.

The number of Agaricus growers in the U.S. totaled 118, down 7 from last season and 9 below two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 63 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 530 million pounds.

The growing area is 28.9 million square feet, down 7 percent from the previous season and 5 percent below 2002-03. Total fillings are 143 million square feet, down 2 percent from last season but 1 percent above 2002-03. Yields averaged 5.86 pounds per square foot, up 2 percent from last season. Producers received an average return of \$6.03 per square foot, up 3 cents from last season but unchanged from the 2002-03 season.

# AGRICULTURAL PRICES

## AUGUST 15, 2005

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 117, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 1 point (0.8 percent) from July. The Crop Index is down 2 points (1.7 percent) while the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received lower commodity prices for corn, soybeans, eggs, and sweet corn. Higher prices were received for lettuce, peaches, strawberries, and turkeys. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of cattle, grapes, sweet corn, and calves offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers. Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 3 points (2.5 percent) from August 2004.

The August **All Crops Index** is 116, down 1.7 percent from July and 2.5 percent below August 2004. The August all wheat price, at \$3.21 per bushel, is up 1 cent from July but down 6 cents from August 2004. The corn price, at \$1.89 per bushel, is down 22 cents from last month and 45 cents below August 2004. The all hay price, at \$99.70 per ton, is unchanged from July but up \$7.50 from last August. The soybean price, at \$6.09 per bushel, decreased 56 cents from July and is 74 cents below August 2004. The all potato price, at \$7.51 per cwt, is down \$1.18 from July but up \$1.74 from last August. The all dry bean price, at \$22.40 per cwt, is down \$3.00 from the previous month but \$1.50 above August 2004.

The August, **Livestock and Products Index**, at 117, is 0.8 percent below last month and down 4.1 percent from August 2004. The August hog price, at \$50.00 per cwt, is up 20 cents from July but \$5.30 lower than a year ago. The August beef cattle price of \$84.70 is down 60 cents from last month and \$3.00 lower than August 2004. The August all milk price of \$14.70 is down 10 cents from last month and 20 cents from August 2004.

### Prices Received and Paid Summary, United States

Index	2004		2005	
	July	August	July	August
1990-92 = 100				
	<b>Percent</b>			
Prices Received .....	124	120	118	117
Prices Paid .....	135	135	141	141
Ratio 1/ .....	92	89	84	83

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

**Colorado** commodity prices for Mid-August averaged higher than the previous month except for dry edible beans and corn, wheat remained unchanged. All livestock prices averaged lower. Wheat, at \$3.06 per bushel, was unchanged from the previous month but 2 cents below a year ago. Corn decreased 25 cents from July to \$2.03 per bushel and was 72 cents lower than August 2004. Dry beans averaged \$29.00 per cwt for

mid-August, down \$1.10 from July but \$8.30 above August 2004. Alfalfa hay prices, at \$105.00, were up \$6.00 from last month and \$19.00 above August 2004. Other hay increased \$18.00 from last month and \$25.00 above a year ago. Steers and Heifers, at \$107.00 per cwt, were down \$1.00 from July and averaged \$8.00 below August 2004. Cows decreased 80 cents from July to \$51.80 per cwt and were \$4.40 below a year ago. Calves, at \$134.00 per cwt, were down \$2.00 from July of this year and \$5.00 below August 2004.

### Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		August 2004	July 2005	August 2005
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	3.08	3.06	3.06
Corn .....	Bu.	2.75	2.28	2.03
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.56	2/	2/
Potatoes .....	Cwt	7.05	4.75	5.90
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	20.70	30.10	29.00
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	86.00	99.00	105.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	80.00	87.00	105.00
<b>Livestock &amp; Products.....</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	114.00	107.00	106.00
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	115.00	108.00	107.00
Cows .....	Cwt	56.20	52.60	51.80
Calves.....	Cwt	139.00	136.00	134.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	40.60	37.90	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	96.50	117.00	3/
<b>United States</b>				
<b>Crops</b>				
<b>Dollars</b>				
Wheat .....	Bu.	3.27	3.20	3.21
Corn .....	Bu.	2.34	2.11	1.89
Soybeans .....	Bu.	6.83	6.65	6.09
Barley (All) .....	Bu.	2.77	2.38	2.75
Barley (Feed) .....	Bu.	1.83	1.98	1.90
Sorghum.....	Cwt	4.01	3.94	3.68
Potatoes.....	Cwt	5.77	8.69	7.51
Dry edible beans.....	Cwt	20.90	25.40	22.40
Alfalfa hay (baled) .....	Ton	99.30	109.00	109.00
Other hay (baled) .....	Ton	71.90	75.90	74.80
Onions.....	Cwt	13.40	20.10	16.50
<b>Livestock &amp; Products</b>				
Beef Cattle .....	Cwt	87.70	85.30	84.70
Steers & heifers.....	Cwt	91.00	88.40	88.00
Cows .....	Cwt	54.70	53.80	51.90
Calves.....	Cwt	131.00	132.00	131.00
Sheep.....	Cwt	37.30	40.30	3/
Lambs.....	Cwt	97.90	109.00	3/
Hogs.....	Cwt	55.30	49.80	50.00
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	14.90	14.80	14.70
Broilers.....	Lb.	0.460	0.440	0.440

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments. 2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms. 3/Mid-month price discontinued.

## TURKEYS RAISED 2005

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2005 is 256 million, down 3 percent from the number raised during 2004. The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2005: Minnesota, at 44.5 million birds, is expected to raise the largest number of any state, showing a 2 percent decrease from last year. North Carolina ranks second with 36.0 million birds, down 8 percent from 2004. Arkansas is in third place by producing 29.0 million birds, 2 percent more than a year ago. Virginia, at 21.0 million birds is up 7 percent from 2004. Missouri growers expect to produce 20.5 million birds in 2005, down 5 percent from the previous year. California expects to raise 15.1 million turkeys, 4 percent less than a year earlier.

## COLD STORAGE

**JULY 31, 2005**

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 2005 were greater than year earlier levels for pork and eggs. Butter stocks were down 3 percent from last month, and down 10 percent from a year ago.

**Total red meat supplies** in freezers were down slightly from last month, but up 5 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 10 percent from last month, but up 21 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 29 percent from last month, but up 115 percent from last year.

**Total frozen poultry supplies** on July 31, 2005 were up 1 percent from the previous month, but down 9 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 2 percent from the previous month, but down 4 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down slightly from last month, and down 15 percent from July 31, 2004.

**Public cooler occupancy** on July 31, 2005, was at 52 percent of capacity, up 3 points from last year. Public freezer occupancy, was at 65 percent, up 4 points from last year.

**R. René Picanso**  
Director

**Steve Anderson**  
Deputy Director

## Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	July 31, 2004	June 30, 2005	July 31, 2005
	<b>1,000 Pounds</b>		
Butter .....	193,520	179,652	174,488
Cheese, total natural.....	870,002	814,746	831,484
Eggs, frozen .....	16,720	19,681	19,632
Poultry, total frozen .....	1,330,851	1,200,362	1,213,210
Chicken.....	730,290	690,166	704,490
Turkey.....	599,589	509,678	508,168
Fruits, frozen.....	1,050,497	769,159	1,024,254
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	2,201,419	1,812,520	1,770,207
Vegetables, total frozen	1,670,127	1,515,495	1,667,146
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,117,070	1,190,464	1,151,494
Meats, total red .....	807,671	851,816	847,659
Beef, total frozen.....	427,047	342,191	380,372
Pork, total frozen.....	366,812	492,566	445,578

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

## UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Internet at:

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Sept. 12 - Crop Production
- Sept. 16 - Milk Production
- Sept. 21 - Cold Storage
- Sept. 22 - Potatoes
- Sept. 23 - Cattle on Feed
- Sept. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- Sept. 23 - Livestock Slaughter
- Sept. 29 - Agricultural Prices
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- Sept. 30 - Quarterly Hogs and Pigs
- Sept. 30 - Small Grains Summary